

Issue NE-CW2002, released May 20, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**GENERAL:** Planting progress continued at a steady rate but cool temperatures slowed emergence and growth, according to the USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Drought conditions persisted in western counties with less than half an inch of moisture recorded in most locations.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center.

**WEATHER:** Temperatures averaged one to seven degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation was scattered and light statewide. Freezing temperatures were again recorded in the western half of the Nebraska.

**CROPS:** **Corn** planting neared completion with 93 percent finished, ahead of the 91 percent last year and average. The impact of cool temperatures could be seen with emergence at 50 percent, behind last year’s 57 percent and the average of 53.

**Soybean** planting progressed to 45 percent complete, behind last year’s 46 and average at 50. Nine percent of the crop was emerged, behind 16 last year and 15 average. Soil temperatures near 60 degrees were too cool for crop development.

**Sorghum** planting reached 20 percent completed but lagged behind last year at 30 and average at 31. Emergence was noted on 3 percent of the acreage, behind 11 last year and 7 average.

**Wheat** condition declined from last week and remained lower than last year and average. Condition rated 13 percent very poor, 29 poor, 36 fair, 20 good and 2 excellent. Eighty two percent of the crop was jointed, ahead of 65 percent last year and 79 average. Statewide, 17 percent of the acreage had headed, behind 20 percent last year and average. The South Central District was the most advanced with 51 percent headed. Crop damaging low temperatures in parts of the Panhandle a week and a half ago added stress to the drought-impacted crop.

**Oat** emergence was nearly complete at 97 percent, ahead of 85 percent last year and 94 average. Condition was rated 4 percent very poor, 9 poor, 32 fair, 49 good, and 6 excellent, lower than previous year and average.

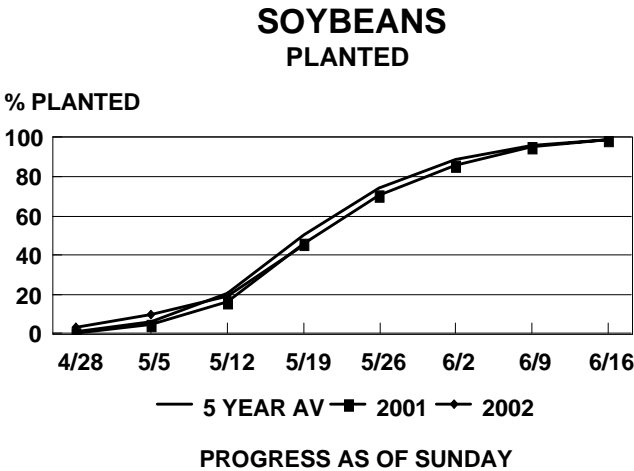
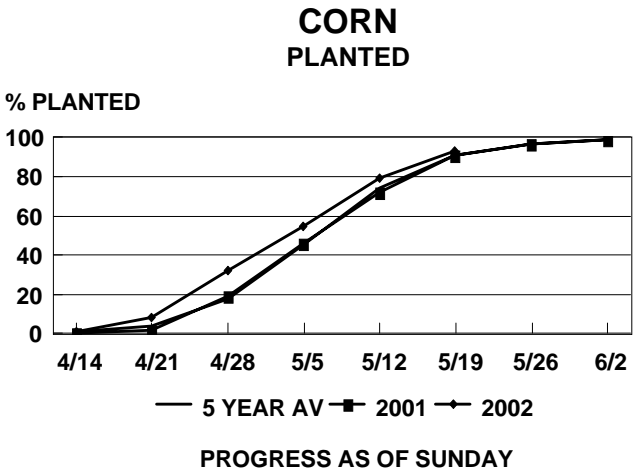
**Dry bean** planting was underway with 5 percent completed, ahead of 2 last year and 4 average.

**Alfalfa** condition showed little change from last week and rated 2 percent very poor, 9 poor, 33 fair, 51 good, and 5 excellent. Statewide, 4 percent had been cut by week’s end, behind the 8 percent last year but the same as average.

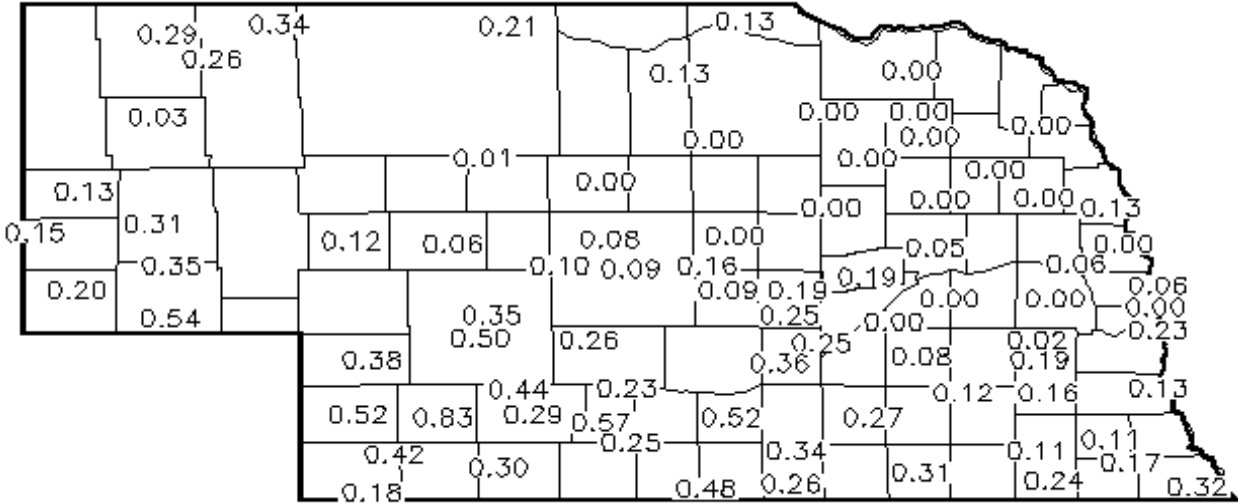
**LIVESTOCK: Pasture and range** conditions continued below average and rated 8 percent very poor, 20 poor, 36 fair, 34 good, and 2 excellent. Poorest conditions continued in the Southwest District, where nearly two-thirds of the pastures were in poor or very poor condition. Due to short pastures, some producers were grazing wheat in the southwest.

Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of May 19, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Planted	91	88	93	98	91	92	94	96	93	79	91	91
% Corn Emerged	30	21	26	68	51	42	63	74	50	26	57	53
% Soybeans Planted	0	36	36	64	39	33	47	58	45	19	46	50
% Soybeans Emerged	0	0	2	19	7	1	5	17	9	3	16	15
% Sorghum Planted	0	22	15	6	25	21	10	24	20	7	30	31
% Sorghum Emerged	0	0	8	0	3	0	0	5	3	0	11	7
% Wheat Jointed	68	71	49	52	62	94	96	82	82	46	65	79
% Wheat Headed	0	0	5	0	1	12	51	14	17	2	20	20
% Oats Emerged	87	96	100	98	93	100	100	100	97	89	85	94
% Alfalfa 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	0	0	2	4	5	0	0	15	4	0	8	4
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	6.2	5.4	5.5	5.5	4.2	6.1	4.2	4.3	5.1	4.9	6.1	5.6
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	40	6	1	13	0	49	9	1	16	18	1	7
- % Short	25	15	13	35	10	41	16	16	21	21	12	23
- % Adequate	35	77	82	52	88	10	74	78	61	59	83	63
- % Surplus	0	2	4	0	2	0	1	5	2	2	4	7
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	32	7	0	32	8	55	34	7	20	19	1	9
- % Short	42	28	22	46	39	34	39	43	35	34	18	18
- % Adequate	26	65	76	22	52	11	27	50	44	46	80	68
- % Surplus	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	5



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending May 19, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - May 19, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.22	.07	.02	.16	.09	.28	.40	.21
Total since April 1	1.38	3.28	4.46	3.19	4.89	1.65	2.60	4.70
Normal since April 1	3.59	4.11	4.82	4.61	5.17	3.89	4.40	5.23
Total as % of normal	37%	80%	91%	69%	94%	42%	59%	89%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,  
Week Ending Sunday, May 19, 2002

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	80	30	53	-3	56	220	272
	Scottsbluff	82	30	56	-1	67	262	273
	Sidney	80	30	53	-4	63	249	281
NC	Ainsworth	79	31	53	-6	56	229	298
	Arthur	79	37	53	-5	54	229	296
	O'Neill	77	30	53	-7	60	240	312
NE	Concord	79	35	55	-6	66	265	315
	Elgin	77	36	55	-6	63	257	318
	West Point	81	35	56	-7	71	290	331
C	Grand Island	81	34	56	-5	68	297	326
	Lexington	82	39	57	-4	71	308	323
	Ord	79	29	55	-6	67	276	322
EC	Lincoln	79	35	57	-6	75	342	347
	Central City	81	35	56	-5	71	301	328
	Mead	80	36	57	-6	79	334	343
SW	Champion	82	36	56	-3	70	294	307
	North Platte	80	37	56	-4	65	281	309
	Curtis	81	35	56	-3	70	293	314
SC	Arapahoe	81	32	54	-4	63	256	294
	Minden	84	38	56	-4	68	305	324
	Red Cloud	86	39	59	-2	78	379	329
SE	Beatrice	80	36	57	-6	74	355	347
	Clay Center	80	34	56	-5	69	300	327
	Nemaha	81	39	59	-6	78	390	376

Source: High Plains Climate Center.